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S/22103
18 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 18 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Declaration of the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic on the Outbreak of Hostilities against Iraq:

"The Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic considers the outbreak of hostilities against Iraq by the allied forces on 17 January 1991 to be a logical result of the present crisis in the Persian Gulf. This is a natural and legal consequence of the fact that Iraq has refused to comply with the United Nations Security Council resolution 678 (1990) demanding an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi troops from the illegally occupied territory of Kuwait.

"The Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic fully supports the adopted decision enforcing the will of the international community to free Kuwait by all possible means. At the same time, it appeals to the Government of the Republic of Iraq asking it to prevent further bloodshed and an increase in material damage in the whole region of the Persian Gulf - for which it is fully responsible - by expeditiously withdrawing its troops from Kuwait."

I would be grateful if you could have the texts of this letter and of the Declaration of the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Eduard KUKAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ALGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement issued on 17 January 1991 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amar BENDJAMA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Statement issued on 17 January 1991 by the official spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Algeria

Since 2 August 1990, the Arab nation has been confronted with a critical situation and one of the most dangerous in all its history. The tragedy reached its climax with the massive military intervention against fraternal Iraq carried out by an international alliance led by the greatest of the Western military powers. In order to carry out this operation against a third-world country, the greatest mobilization of means of destruction in the history of warfare was carried out in Arab territory over a period of only five months.

This war is an expression of intransigence, of a sense of power and of a desire for hegemony. True power, however, is that which is bestowed by God, and He requires of those upon whom he has conferred it that they should be wise and just. The conceit and sense of power of the parties concerned have left no room for flexibility and compromise. This is also true with respect to the righting of the greatest wrong committed in this century, namely that to which the heroic Palestinian people fell victim more than 40 years ago. This war which has been imposed on the fraternal Iraqi people has been forcefully rejected by Algeria in the past, and it condemns it today in the strongest possible terms.

The destiny of the Arab nation has never before been threatened in the tragic manner in which it is being threatened today.

Motivated by an awareness of the painful consequences that would stem from such a war and mindful of the great dangers that threaten the unity and destiny of the Arab nation, Algeria, together with those vital Arab forces that grasp the higher interest of the Arab nation in achieving a peaceful solution within an Arab framework, has striven for the full mobilization of the Arab nation's lively conscience and its deep awareness of its interests with a view to achieving an Arab solution within an Arab framework.

Algeria has spared no effort to appeal to all those States with which it has relations and to all men of good-will in the world to strive for more understanding and greater flexibility in the search for a solution that will ensure the higher interests of the Arab nation and, at the same time, achieve world peace. Such a solution would be based, on the one hand, on respect for the international rule of law and the restoration of the sovereignty of Kuwait and, on the other, on the preservation of Iraq, whose achievements and capabilities represent a precious acquisition for the Arabs as a whole.

Algeria has acted out of a conviction that this war, aimed as it is at the destruction of Iraq, will necessarily affect Kuwait and other Arab countries, that it will inevitably have an impact on the entire Arab world and that it will benefit only the enemies of the Arab nation, principally a Zionist entity that can only emerge from the war strengthened.

Since 2 August last, Algeria has constantly affirmed that the Gulf crisis, no matter how recondite and complex its underlying causes and regardless of its grave regional and international consequences, could have been resolved justly and honourably within an Arab framework by means of dialogue and negotiations.

However, the Cairo summit convened on 10 August 1990, at which the Arabs assembled in order to seek an Arab solution precluding direct or indirect foreign intervention, supplanted joint Arab action by resort to foreign forces and thus opened the way to intransigence, a hardening of positions and an irrational yielding to the logic of war.

Algeria has constantly rejected the logic of war. It has always been aware of the devastating impact of an armed conflict, of the instability and insecurity that the Arab world, and indeed the world as a whole, would undergo as a result of the political and economic upheavals that it would cause and of the sense of wrong and humiliation that it would produce in the Arab nation.

The Arab world, which will be afflicted with unprecedented destruction and division, will be the first victim of the end of the cold war and of the new international political order intended to be established on the woes of the Arab world.

The Palestinian cause, that sacred Arab cause which is present in the current conflict just as it is present in all crises which convulse the Middle East, is once more a victim of the interests of power and of a disregard of the international rule of law to which appeal is made by those who bear responsibility for the war.

Algeria has always been against the resort to violence and the forcible annexation of territory, and these are firmly established and deeply held principles that have constantly guided Algeria in its foreign policy.

Algeria further believes that international legitimacy is an indivisible whole, and this means that international legitimacy is to be applied to one and all, in all circumstances and in all places, beginning with the question of Palestine.

Algeria, which strove assiduously up to the last moment in order to avert a catastrophe, charges one and all with their responsibilities towards the Arab peoples and towards history.

The Arab nation is facing the gravest trial of its modern history, and the Algerian people must endure that trial with its well-known courage and determination and in the spirit of responsibility and solidarity with which it is graced.

Closer than ever to the fraternal Iraqi people, Algeria expresses its solidarity with that people in the ordeal that has been imposed upon it. It calls upon all peoples that cherish peace and justice to strive earnestly for an immediate halt to military operations, for the withdrawal of all foreign forces and

fleets from Iraq, from Kuwait and from the entire region, and for an immediate start to be made on a process leading to the peaceful settlement of the Middle East issue through the convening of an international conference.

At this crucial stage in the history of the Arab nation, Algeria commits itself to exerting every effort for the mobilization and utilization of all such forces as may bring about a return to a state of lasting peace and stability in the region.

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 16 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SAUDI ARABIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, may I convey the following according to operative articles 2, 3 and 4 of Security Council resolution 678 (1990).

An official spokesman in Saudi Arabia has announced today that the operation for the liberation of the State of Kuwait commenced, with God's help and success, at dawn, at 2.50 a.m., the 17th of January 1991 Riyadh time (time difference, already 17th in Riyadh).

The official spokesman further added that in implementation of the Arab and Islamic resolutions as well as of the resolutions of the Security Council which stipulates the necessity for the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi invading forces from Kuwait territories and the restoration of legitimacy in the country; and whereas all efforts, initiatives and appeals that had been exerted and addressed to the ruler of Iraq up to the last minute of the deadline that has been set for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, which is the 15th of January 1991, and what has followed from that up to this morning at dawn; and given that President Saddam Hussein had adamantly rejected all efforts, appeals and endeavours and has also rejected international legality, while it was possible for him to avoid the occurrence of these battles to prevent bloodshed; thus the military operations for the liberation of the State of Kuwait has commenced. Victory is bestowed by God.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir S. SHIHABI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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18 January 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 17 January 1991 by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on actions in the Gulf taken in order to enforce the United Nations Security Council resolutions (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yoshio HATANO
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Japan
to the United Nations

Annex

Statement by the Prime Minister of Japan issued on 17 January 1991

I. Today a number of States Members of the United Nations, including the United States and European and Arab countries, resorted to the use of force in order to enforce United Nations Security Council resolutions which demand the total withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate Government of Kuwait.

Japan has insisted from the beginning that the Government of Iraq comply with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions without delay, and has made every possible effort until the very last moment to resolve the crisis peacefully. The Government of Iraq, however, has stubbornly ignored the Security Council resolutions and continued its invasion and annexation of Kuwait beyond the grace period that expired on 15 January. Japan strongly condemns this outrageous behaviour of Iraq, and deeply regrets that the efforts of the international community to find a peaceful solution to the crisis have achieved nothing.

Iraq's blatant invasion and annexation of its neighbour is a challenge to the authority of the United Nations which has a major responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. If condoned, such actions would jeopardize the just and stable international order that is so indispensable for the existence of every country, including Japan. Accordingly, Japan pledges its firm support for the use of force by the countries concerned, carried out in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 678, as the last resort in efforts to terminate the invasion and restore peace.

Japan is determined to extend maximum possible support, in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions, to the actions taken by the countries concerned to restore international peace and stability. Furthermore, Japan will offer maximum possible assistance to evacuees and refugees in co-operation with relevant international organizations, and is already taking actions for its implementation.

Japan strongly calls upon the Government of Iraq to respect the united will of the international community and immediately accept all the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions. It is our strong hope that hostilities in the Gulf region will promptly cease, and lasting peace and stability will prevail in the Middle East as soon as possible.

The Government of Japan has already taken necessary steps to ensure the safety of Japanese nationals remaining in and around the Gulf region. The Government will continue to make all possible efforts for the protection of those Japanese nationals, with a view to avoiding any unexpected adverse developments in the present situation. All necessary measures are also being taken to prevent hijackings and other emergency situations in Japan and overseas.

Likewise, the Government intends to work within a co-operative international framework to minimize the adverse impact on the Japanese economy and to ensure stability in the daily life of the people. At the same time, I would like to remind the Japanese people of the heightened need for energy conservation.

Japan has also established a Gulf crisis task force within the Cabinet and headed by myself as Prime Minister, and will respond vigorously to this emergency in a concerted, comprehensive and effective manner.

Confident that these policies are in Japan's own interests and are consistent with the desire for lasting peace through international harmony as expressed in our Constitution, the Government asks for the understanding and co-operation of all of the people.

II. Based on the position that I have just stated, the following concrete measures will be taken:

1. Assistance to the multinational forces.

The Government of Japan intends to extend, as assistance to the multinational forces, an additional contribution to the Gulf Peace Fund.

2. Assistance to evacuees.

(1) Financial and in-kind co-operation

To cope positively with the situation, the Government of Japan will disburse as soon as possible $US 38 million, which is equivalent to the full amount which the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) has requested from the international community to cover start-up costs for the relief of evacuees. Relief materials (including blankets) will also be provided to the countries around Iraq, as the need arises.

(2) Transportation co-operation

From a humanitarian viewpoint, the Government will ask civil airlines to transport evacuees, and under the assumption that conditions will vary from case to case, will consider the use of Self-defense Force transportation aircraft as necessary. I would like to request the understanding of the Japanese people in these actions.

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18 January 1991
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ORIGINAL: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 18 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NICARAGUA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the communiqué issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua on 17 January 1991 concerning the situation in the Persian Gulf.

I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Roberto MAYORGA CORTES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Communiqué

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, in view of the grave crisis which has developed in the Persian Gulf, makes known to the people of Nicaragua and to the international community the following:

In the spirit of respect for international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the principle of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of every nation, the Government of Nicaragua reiterates its support for the resolutions which the Security Council of the United Nations has adopted in relation to this conflict.

The Government of Nicaragua deeply deplores the fact that the attempts at a peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis by political and diplomatic means have been frustrated, and entertains the hope that the efforts which the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the international community have been making will result in the re-establishment of Kuwait as a sovereign and independent nation.

The Government of Nicaragua likewise deeply regrets the suffering, the loss of lives and the devastating consequences inevitably occasioned by war. Nicaragua, having also suffered during its history the effects of armed confrontation, advocates a speedy solution to this conflict that will once again set humanity on the path of peace and reconciliation.

Issued in Managua on 17 January 1991.

Department of Press and Information,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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